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a designation of a communication method defining communication with said predetermined apparatus via said line.

2. (Amended) A recording medium according to claim 1 wherein said information is described in an HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language) and said line number is described along with a line-number tag showing that what is described by said line number is a line.

3. (cancelled) ✓

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4. (Amended) A transmission medium configured to transmit information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, wherein said information includes:

a line number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus as a link destination; and

a designation of a communication method defining communication with said predetermined apparatus via said line.

5. (Amended) A transmission medium according to claim 4 wherein said information is described in an HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language) and said line number is described along with a line-number tag showing that what is described by said line number is a line.

6. (cancelled) ✓

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7. (Amended) An information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, the information including:

1) a line number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and

2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with the predetermined apparatus;

b) a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

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c) a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display; and

d) a communication controller configured to establish a communication link with the predetermined apparatus, governed by the communication method, and based on the line number if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said line number.

8. (Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 7 wherein:
said information is described in an HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language);
said line number is described along with a line number tag showing that what is described thereby is a line; and
a recognition device judges whether or not said line number is associated with said predetermined position based on said line-number tag.

9. (cancelled) ✓

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10. (Amended) An information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, the information including a line number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus;

b) a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

c) a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display;

d) a communication controller configured to establish a communication link with the predetermined apparatus based on the line number, if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said line number; and

e) a line-number selector configured to select one from a plurality of line numbers in case plural line numbers are associated with said predetermined position.

11. (Amended) An information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, the information including a line number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus;

b) a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

c) a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display;

d) a communication controller configured to establish a communication link with the predetermined apparatus based on the line number, if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said line number; and

e) a number adder configured to add a number required for international communication to a line number in case said line number is a line number of a foreign country.

12. (Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 7 further including a confirmation device configured to confirm that a communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established.

13. (Amended) An information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, the information including a line number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus;

b) a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

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c) a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display; and

d) a communication controller configured to establish a communication link with the predetermined apparatus based on the line number, if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said line number;

wherein said display also displays an estimated charge for a telephone call to communicate with said predetermined apparatus.

14. (Amended) An information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, the information including a line number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus;

b) a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

c) a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display; and

d) a communication controller configured to establish a communication link with the predetermined apparatus based on the line number, if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said line number;

wherein:

said receiver receives said information transmitted by said information providing apparatus by way of a predetermined network after a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined network has been established;

said communication controller establishes a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined apparatus after a line connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined network has been cut off; and

said communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined network is reestablished after communication with said predetermined apparatus has been completed.

15. (Amended) An information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, the information including a line number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus;

b) a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

c) a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display; and

d) a communication controller configured to establish a communication link with the predetermined apparatus based on the line number, if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said line number;

wherein:

said receiver receives said information transmitted by said information providing apparatus by way of a predetermined network after a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined network has been established; and

in case an attempt made by said communication controller to establish a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined apparatus after cutting off a line connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined

network ends in a failure, either an attempt to establish a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined apparatus is again made or said communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined network is re-established.

16. (Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 15 wherein, in case said attempt made by said communication controller to establish a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined apparatus ends in a failure, said information processing apparatus is capable of selecting either processing to again make an attempt to establish a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined apparatus or processing to re-establish said communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined network.

17. (Amended) A method for processing incoming information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said method comprising:

receiving and displaying said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, said information including:

- 1) a line number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and
- 2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with the predetermined apparatus; and

establishing a communication link with the predetermined apparatus based on said line number if a predetermined position on said displayed information is indicated and said predetermined position is associated with said line number.

18. (Amended) A recording medium configured to store a computer program to be executed by an information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said program comprising:

receiving and displaying said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, said information including:

- 1) a line number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and
- 2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with the predetermined apparatus; and

establishing a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to the predetermined apparatus based on said line number if a predetermined position on said displayed information is indicated and said predetermined position is associated with said line number.

19. (Amended) A transmission medium configured to transmit a computer program to be executed by an information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said program comprising:

receiving and displaying said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, said information including:

- 1) a line number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and
- 2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with the predetermined apparatus; and

establishing a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to the predetermined apparatus based on said line number if a predetermined position on said displayed information is indicated and said predetermined position is associated with said line number.

20. (Amended) An information providing apparatus comprising:

a recording medium configured to store information described in a language usable for describing link destinations; and

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a transmitter configured to transmit said information in response to a request, wherein
said information stored in said recording medium includes:

1) a line number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus as
said link destination; and

2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with the
predetermined apparatus.

21. (Amended) An information providing apparatus according to Claim 20 wherein:
said information is described in a HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language); and
said line number is described along with a line number tag indicating that a description

thereof is a line.

22. (cancelled)

23. (Amended) An information processing system comprising:

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a) an information providing apparatus configured to provide information described in
a language usable for describing link destinations, said information providing apparatus
including:

a recording medium for storing information including (1) a line number assigned
to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus as said link destination and (2) a
designation of a communication method defining communication with the predetermined
apparatus; and

a transmitter configured to transmit said information in response to a request
received from an information processing apparatus,

b) said information processing apparatus, configured to receive and process said
information, said information processing apparatus including:

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a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by said information providing apparatus;

a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display; and

a communication controller configured to establish a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to the predetermined apparatus based on the line number if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said line number.

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--24. (New) An Internet appliance apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, the information including:

1) a line number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and

2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with the predetermined apparatus;

b) a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

c) a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display; and

d) a communication controller configured to establish a communication link with the predetermined apparatus, governed by the communication method, and based on the line number if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said line number.